MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COURT OF THE ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I move the following Motion:

"That in pursuance of item (xxiv) of clause (1) read with clause (2) of Statute 14 of the Statutes of the Aligarh Muslim University appended to the Aligarh Muslim University (Amendment) Act, 1981, in terms of Section 28 thereof, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House to be a member of the Court of the Aligarh Muslim University in the vacancy that will arise on the 9th August, 2009 due to the expiry of the term of Shri Moinul Hassan as a member of the Court.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today, we are taking up Calling Attention. A large number of Members have given notice about the reported humiliation of the former President, Shri A.P.J. Abdul Kalam at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, in view of the importance of the subject, as an exception, we are taking it up as a Zero Hour submission. No other Zero Hour submission will be allowed. After that, we will take up the Calling Attention.

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MATTER RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION

Reported Humiliation of the former President, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam at Indira Gandhi International Airport

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, दिल्ली के इंदिरा गांधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट पर भारत के पूर्व राष्ट्रपति के साथ कुछ दिनों पूर्व जो घटना घटी है, उससे लगता है कि यह व्यक्ति का अपमान नहीं हुआ है, यह भारत का अपमान हुआ है, भारत की इज्जत के साथ खिलवाड़ किया गया है। यह अमरीका में नहीं हुआ है, यह भारत की धरती पर हुआ है। अब्दुल कलाम जी अपनी सरकारी यात्रा पर कांटिनेंटल एयरलाइंस की फ्लाइट से जा रहे थे। जिसकी संख्या CO 083 थी। वे नेवार्क के लिए जा रहे थे। वे आम यात्रियों की तरह लाइन में खड़े थे। उनके प्रोटोकॉल ऑफिसर ने उस अमेरिकी अधिकारी को भी कहा कि वे पूर्व राष्ट्रपति हैं और सारे प्रोटोकॉल के तहत इनकी जाँच नहीं की जा सकती। **...(व्यवधान)...** लेकिन मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि **...(व्यवधान)...**

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ (Orissa): This is not fair, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... The External Affairs Minister can stay. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): He can stay back for a while, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not related to the Ministry of External Affairs It is the Home Ministry. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government is there. ....*(Interruptions)*... It is the Home

Ministry. It has nothing to do... *(Interruptions)*... Sit down please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please speak.

श्री प्रभात झा: एयरोब्रिज के अधिकारियों को सभी लोगों ने वहाँ बताया। इस मिसाइल मैन को कौन नहीं जानता है। इस देश का बच्चा-बच्चा उन्हें जानता है। पूर्व राष्ट्रपति जी का पर्स निकाला गया, उनके जेब की सारी चीजें निकाली गईं और उनकी अन्य सामग्री के अलावा यह कहा गया कि आप अपने जूते भी उतारिए। बार-बार कहने के बाद भी ऐसा किया गया। अब हम जानना चाहते हैं कि क्या भारत-रत्न प्राप्त उस व्यक्ति का अपमान यह देश बर्दाश्त करेगा? यह केवल व्यक्ति का अपमान नहीं था। उन्हें भारत रत्न मिला था, वे हमारे देश के मिसाइल पर्सनैलिटी हैं, वे पूर्व राष्ट्रपति हैं। सारी चीजें लिखी हुई हैं। आपने उन्हें सर्वोच्च सम्मान दिया हुआ है। वहाँ लिखा हुआ है कि किन VIP लोगों के लिए सुरक्षा जाँच में छूट दी गई है। वह सब होने के बावजूद ऐसा क्यों हुआ और किसके कहने पर हुआ? क्या यह भारत को बदनाम करने की कोई गहरी साजिश तो नहीं थी? क्या भारत को दबाने की कोशिश तो नहीं की गई थी? उन अधिकारियों के ऊपर क्या कार्रवाई की जाएगी, मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूँ? उपसभापति महोदय, सरकार को इस सदन को बताना चाहिए कि वहाँ जो हमारी सुरक्षा व्यवस्था थी, हमारे सुरक्षा अधिकारियों ने बार-बार कहा कि वे हमारे पूर्व राष्ट्रपति हैं **...(व्यवधान)...**

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है, आपका समय समाप्त हो गया। **...(व्यवधान)...** एक-एक पार्टी से एक-एक व्यक्ति बोलिए। It is not an open discussion. ...*(Interruptions)* One minute, please. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI VIKRAM VERMA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Sir, we all associate ourselves. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)* आप बैठिए न **...(व्यवधान)...** आप बैठिए **...(व्यवधान)...** आप मुझे बोलने दीजिए **...(व्यवधान)...**

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, इसमें एक सवाल है कि जो अमेरिकन एयरलाइन है, उसमें **...(व्यवधान)...**

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए, प्लीज़ **... (व्यवधान)...** Please allow me to speak. When I am speaking, why do you interrupt? ...*(Interruptions)*... Please allow me to speak. देखिए, 5-6 ऑनरेबल मैम्बर्स ने इस पर नोटिस दिया है। Discussion के बाद यह तय हुआ कि today, as a special case, we will take up Zero Hour. जिन्होंने नोटिस दिया है, पहले उन्हें बुलाने दीजिए। मेरी गुज़ारिश है कि बाद में एक-एक पार्टी से एक-एक मैम्बर इस पर बोलें, ताकि इस पर discussion हो सके।

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड) : सर, जिन्होंने नोटिस दिया है, उनको बुलाइए।

श्री उपसभापति : प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, हमारे माननीय साथी ने अभी जो प्रश्न उठाया, वह बहुत ही गम्भीर मामला है। यह दुर्भाग्य है कि एक बार नहीं, हिन्दुस्तान के बहुत प्रतिष्ठित पदों पर बैठे हुए व्यक्तियों के साथ इससे पहले भी इसी तरह की हरकतें बाहर हुईं। हमारे former स्पीकर के साथ ऐसा हुआ; जॉर्ज साहब डिफेंस मिनिस्टर थे, उनके साथ ऐसा हुआ। वह तो दूसरी धरती पर हुआ था, कलाम साहब के साथ यह हिन्दुस्तान की राजधानी दिल्ली में एक विदेशी कम्पनी के अधिकारियों द्वारा तब हुआ, जब उनके सिक्योरिटी

ऑफिसर यह कह रहे हैं कि वे हिन्दुस्तान के पूर्व राष्ट्रपति हैं। सभी लोग उन्हें जानते हैं। मैं तो आपके माध्यम से यह मांग करूंगा कि इस कंपनी के अधिकारियों के खिलाफ तत्काल कार्यवाही की जाए और जिस अमैरिकन अधिकारी ने यह कहा था, 'nobody is exempted', उस अधिकारी को फौरन इस देश से बाहर निकालने के आदेश जारी करने के निर्देश दिए जाएं।

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभापति महोदय ..**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I also want to speak on this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: First of all, I am calling the names of those Members who have given the notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... Then, as I said, I will allow one Member from each party. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: उपसभापति महोदय, मैं केवल दो बातों को उठाऊंगा। जैसे ही इस गंभीर मामले की खबर सबको मिली है, पूरा देश आहत है, क्योंकि बार-बार इस तरह की घटनाएं हो रही हैं। आपको याद होगा कि पहले भी लोकसभा के स्पीकर के साथ ऐसी घटना हुई और उन्होंने आखिर सिडनी की यात्रा को ही रद्द कर दिया।

इस संबंध में मेरी दो मांगें हैं। पहली मांग तो यह है कि कॉंटीनैंटल एअरलाइन्स के जिस अधिकारी ने इस तरह का बर्ताव किया, उस अधिकारी पर तो कार्यवाही होनी ही चाहिए, उसको बाहर निकाल दिया जाना चाहिए, लेकिन इस एअरलाइन्स ने अपने यहां एक नियम रखा है कि उस एअरलाइन्स के जो कर्मचारी हैं, उनकी सुरक्षा जांच नहीं होती है। उनके लिए यह नियम नहीं है, वे तो बिना चैक करवाए जा सकते हैं, लेकिन हमारे देश का पूर्व राष्ट्रपति नहीं जा सकता है। हम अपनी धरती पर यह सब कैसे एलाऊ करेंगे? जब तक कि कॉंटिनैंटल एअरलाइन्स अपना यह रूल नहीं बदलती है, तब तक मैं उनके हवाई ऑपरेशन्स को रोकने की मांग करता हूं। इसके साथ-साथ मैं एक और भी मांग करता हूं कि यह घटना केवल कल ही नहीं हुई है। नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री जी, मैं आपको बता रहा हूं कि अंदर इंडियन एअरलाइन्स का जो subsidiary Air Cell है, प्रफुल्ल भाई, मैं फिर से आपको बता रहा हूं कि उस Air Cell की रिपोर्ट आने पर भी सिविल एविएशन मिनिस्ट्री ने कोई कार्यवाही क्यों नहीं की? और अब इस पूरे प्रकरण पर क्या कार्यवाही की जाएगी?

श्री बलबीर पुंज : उपसभापति जी, जिन-जिन लोगों ने भी यह समाचार पढ़ा या टेलिविज़न पर देखा, वे सभी सकते में आ गए। क्योंकि अभी तक जितनी भी घटनाएं हुई थीं, वे विदेशी धरती पर हुई थीं, लेकिन भारत की धरती पर ही पूर्व राष्ट्रपति, भारत रत्न का कोई इस तरह से अपमान करे, यह साहस उनमें कहां से आया? कहीं न कहीं हम लोगों के बारे में यह धारणा बन गई है कि हम कमजोर राष्ट्र हैं। हमारे पूर्व राष्ट्रपति का कोई इस तरह से अपमान करके बच सकता है! जैसी मेरे मित्र ने यहां मांग की, मेरी भी यही मांग है कि एक तो इस एअरलाइन्स का ऑपरेशन तुरन्त बंद करना चाहिए। साथ ही साथ उन अधिकारियों को कानून की जो भी धारा हो, उसके अंतर्गत गिरफ्तार किया जाना चाहिए।

इस देश में ऐसे बहुत सारे लोग हैं, जिनके पास शायद कोई पद भी नहीं है, लेकिन वे किसी विशेष परिवार से हैं, इसलिए उनकी एअरपोर्ट के ऊपर कोई जांच नहीं होती है। उनको जगह-जगह से उड़ान भरने की भी इजाज़त है। मुझे लगता है कि इसका भी खुलासा होना चाहिए कि कौन-कौन लोग उस जांच से एग्ज़म्प्ट हैं और कौन लोग हैं, जिन्हें इस तरह से अपमानित करके, उनकी जांच की जाती है।

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, we would also like to associate fully with the sentiments expressed by Shri Prabhat Jha. It is totally outrageous that the former President of India should have been subjected to this humiliation on Indian soil by a foreign airline. As my

colleagues on the other side have mentioned, just before me, this has happened several times on foreign soil. But, that it should happen on Indian soil is something that we cannot condone. Only one more sentence, Sir, the fact is, as Prakash Javadekarji just mentioned, security is something that is the concern of our forces within the airport and that the airline subjected the former President of India to this humiliation despite being told who he is. The hon. Minister has said already, I think, that there will be a probe, but our demand also will be that until those officers of the Continental Airline are taken to task and punished or whatever action is taken against them, the flying of Continental Airline should be suspended because otherwise the honour of India cannot be upheld.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Brinda Karat.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, from our party, Shri Sitaram Yechury will speak.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I entirely agree and want to associate myself with both, what Shri Javadekar has said and what Jayanthiji has said; suspend the operations of this airline immediately and since this comes from the United States of America, ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sure, I am not provoking Shri Arun Jaitley, I would also like the Government to ascertain whether this action and what has been done with the former President of India has also got something to do with his name, which is Abdul Kalam. If that is the case, then the matter is more serious; the matter is much more serious than a mere slip of the operations that the airline may have conducted. But, I want this matter also to be inquired and an answer given by the Government.

Sir, since the hon. Minister is here, I would like you to ask him to assure the House and the country that the major issue of security will not be outsourced to private agencies and this must be purely and completely under the state's control, and that must be ensured. Otherwise, we will have such problems in the future.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the first thing which pains us more is that this incident has occurred on our soil. The insult that has been meted out to a person is not in the capacity of a former President, but is now the role model of the younger generation across the country. The simplest man, who has proved his capability while he was in office, should not have been treated like this and concealing all the agony we are all having, we would like the Minister first to delist the operator who has been a cause to this and, whoever is responsible, should be taken immediate action against. It is a very sorry incident, we will show our country in a very bad shape for having treated such a great personality like this. He has been treated so badly on our own land.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, my party joins the entire House in deploring this shameful incident which has happened to our former President. I urge upon the Government to act fast

and take necessary action to punish those responsible for such an incident. It is a matter of concern in all airports; we respect some people with high esteem, persons like Dr. Abdul Kalam, and he should not have been treated like that. The outsourcing of security is a major concern. I do not know what is the thinking of the Government. But, as other Members expressed, the Government will have to come with a proper response and will have to take some action so that such incidents do not happen in future.

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is a national shame. The former President of a country is subjected to such a humiliation in the national capital itself. In fact, even before this issue is discussed in the House, we would have been very happy if the hon. Civil Aviation Minister had taken *suo motu* cognizance of the incident and ordered an inquiry already. I would like to know whether he has done anything and the status now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति : देखिए, आपकी पार्टी को समय दे दिया है। ...*(Interruptions)*... Everybody is raising his hand, how to accommodate? *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Only one suggestion, Sir. Let the hon. Minister go and express regret to the hon. former President on behalf of the House. That is what he should do. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, this is not only an insult of Dr. Kalam, it is the insult of the entire nation. We are associating with all the Members who have expressed here. I totally agree with Shri Javadekar, Smt. Jayanthi Natarajan, and we want strongest action against the airline.

श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, यह जो घटना हुई है और जिसको सदन बहुत गम्भीरता से ले रहा है, उसमें हमारी पार्टी सदन की भावनाओं के साथ है। सर, मैं उसमें एक बात जोड़ना चाहता हूँ कि एक लम्बे अरसे से दुनिया के गोरे लोग, खास तौर से अमेरिका के लोग, काले लोगों को अच्छी भावना से नहीं देखते। यह लड़ाई गांधी जी को साउथ अफ्रीका में, मंडेला को जेल में रह कर और डॉ0 लोहिया को अमेरिका में गिरफ्तारी देकर बहुत लड़नी पड़ी। हम समझते हैं कि उसी भावना की बदबू उन लोगों के दिमाग से अभी गई नहीं है। इसलिए सदन को इसमें यह भी जोड़ना चाहिए कि दुनिया में जो कोई भी आदमी जिस किसी रंग में पैदा हुआ है, उसके प्रति किसी को दुर्भावना नहीं होनी चाहिए। लेकिन, चूँकि यह बात आ गई है, इसलिए हमारे सिविल एविएशन मिनिस्टर भूतपूर्व राष्ट्रपति से माफी माँगें या न माँगें लेकिन अमेरिका की सरकार को अपनी सरकार की तरफ से एक संदेश जाना चाहिए कि यह दुर्भावनापूर्ण कार्रवाई हुई है और किसी भी कीमत पर भारत इसको बर्दाश्त नहीं करेगा। अमेरिका के भी भूतपूर्व राष्ट्रपति लोग भारत में आएँगे और अगर इस तरह से उन लोगों की खोज-बीन एक बार भी कर दी गई, तो अमेरिका पहाड़ उठा लेगा। हम नहीं चाहते कि ये कार्रवाइयाँ की जाएँ। इसलिए अमेरिकी प्रशासन अपनी तरफ से भारत से, भारत के राष्ट्रपति से, प्रधान मंत्री से और भूतपूर्व राष्ट्रपति से क्षमा मांगे। यह एक बहुत गम्भीर मामला है, सर।

श्री उपसभापति: यह पूरे हाउस का sentiment है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, this is indeed an outrageous incident, it is not merely a matter of discourtesy to the former President. It is an issue which puts the whole nation into shame. I am sure the hon. Minister will make a statement. If he

has not already ordered an inquiry, should order one but then there is a larger connected issue also. Members have mentioned that there are incidents like our former Speaker had to cancel his visit; our former Ministers have been frisked by taking off their coats, be it their shoes, etc. And at times, we feel so enamoured when certain visiting dignitaries come, we send vehicles to the tarmac to receive them and exempt them from all these issues. Protocol involves courtesies; and protocol and courtesy are always reciprocal. Will the Government also look into this larger issue? Our dignitaries, world over, are being frisked in this manner and we are sending vehicles to the tarmac to receive them when foreign dignitaries of certain countries are coming. This issue would have to be linked to this and this, perhaps, may be an issue for introspection by the Government itself.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, this is the sentiment of the entire House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I would like to know from the Government whether Madam Clinton has been apprised of this situation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is the unanimous sentiment of the entire House. It is a very serious incident and I hope the Government will take necessary action and the Minister will make a statement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I fully associate myself also with the sentiments expressed by the Members of the House from all sections and from all parties. I do agree and unconditionally I would like to state that this act of frisking the former President, one of our tallest figures and heroes of our country, is absolutely unpardonable and it is beyond the scope of laws of our country. I would also like to make it very clear because some Members have expressed doubts whether the security is being outsourced. The security of our airports is purely done and only done by the CISF and what has happened involves the security of the airline itself at their embarkation point. So, it is not the security of the airport or ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: I am associating myself with you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him complete. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: They are again frisking at the aerobridge....*(Interruptions)*... They suspect your security.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is just informing. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: The frisking or the act per se is absolutely wrong because we have our own guidelines; we have our own circulars, which have already been issued. The former Presidents and many other distinguished people in our country have got the security exemption. So, there was no reason. In fact, I would also like to say that not only a preliminary inquiry has

been ordered, but we have also a preliminary report on the basis of which the Continental Airline has already been issued a show-cause notice to explain as to why action against them under Section 11A of the Aircraft Act, 1934 for wilful violation of the BCEAS circular should not be taken.

I am not trying to say that Government or we are insensitive to what has happened. I would be more than happy to see that strictest action is taken and contemplated in accordance with the sentiments expressed in this House, and, also I would not only take action but I would also speak to my distinguished colleague, the Foreign Minister because this involves not only an issue of the airline security *per se* but it has slightly wider ramifications as the Leader of the Opposition has also mentioned. We would definitely be more than happy to see that any action taken is also in consonance with established international law and practice because we cannot take a decision in isolation whereas I respect that when foreign dignitaries come to India we accord the highest protocol, the highest level of courtesy, including exemption from all kinds of security or checks or frisking. The same is expected. Therefore, this action — what I am trying to point out is — is an issue of airline *per se*. Airlines are not barred from having pre-embarkation security of their own. But, the fact is, that security exercise should no be extended to people who are anyway exempt from the BCA circular. It is the moot point which I fully accept. I deplore this incident. We condemn what has happened and on behalf of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, I can assure you that the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security will take the most stringent action in accordance with the rules, regulations and the law.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Calling Attention.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will he go to him personally and express regret? ...*(Interruptions)*

श्री उपसभापति : यह तो हो गया और कितना बोलना चाहते हैं?

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: As a matter of respect and courtesy, though it is not a failure of any agency of the Government, as a mark of respect and sentiment I will personally go and explain the position and express regret from my side to the former President.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Tapan Kumar Sen to call the attention of the Minister.

CALLING ATTENTION TO THE MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Hike in price of petrol and diesel and pricing policy of Petroleum Products

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the hon. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas to the grave situation arising due to hike in price of petrol and diesel and pricing policy of petroleum products.